

Calendar of Ministries

✝ Friday, September 4

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ Saturday, September 5

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ Sunday, September 6

Worship at the Picnic Pavilion at 10 with the Lord's Supper as we consider Jesus at a Servant Leader

✝ Monday, September 7

Enjoy the Labor Day holiday!

✝ Tuesday, September 8

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard has resumed his teaching schedule at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. Ordinarily, he leaves his office about 10 to travel to school. His classes meet at 11 and at 2.

✝ Wednesday, September 9

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ Thursday, September 10

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard will be teaching his college classes today. His 11 o'clock class meets in Clifton Forge; his 2 p.m. class meets in Buena Vista.

✝ Friday, September 11

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ Saturday, September 12

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ Sunday, Sept. 13, Homecoming

Morning Worship in the Sanctuary at 11

Dinner on the Grounds at 12:30

Hymn Sing and Remembrance at 1:30



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
September 3, 2015**

From . . . To . . .

Windy Cove will celebrate its annual Homecoming on Sunday, September 13. Morning Worship will begin in the Sanctuary at 11 o'clock followed by Dinner on the Grounds around 12:30 and a Hymn Sing and Remembrance about 1:30. The Reverend Keith Hill of Saint Giles Presbyterian Church in Richmond will be our guest preacher on Homecoming.

Our theme for Homecoming this year is From . . . To . . . This idea came from a message that the Sherrards heard when the Reverend Bob Rhoden, a retired Assemblies of God pastor, preached at the National Community Church (NCC) in Washington, D.C. Bob Rhoden has been a long-time friend of the Sherrards, and they were interested to hear that he was preaching at NCC in Washington. They listened to the sermon via the internet. His From and To message was very thought provoking.

When you think about people and churches, they all have a past that they are coming from, and they all have a future to which they are heading. Just think about your own life. Your present life has been influenced by the people, places, and experiences that form your past. These are

all part of the From of your life. Perhaps, for example, you had an exceptional teacher who really helped you to sense the value of education and the joy of seeing the love of learning come alive in others. Now, in your present life, you are putting those same ideas into practice with others.

Or, perhaps your father or mother pursued a particular profession. Through their lives you became interested in that same profession. Now, you are following in their footsteps. We often see generations of doctors, lawyers, teachers, engineers, factory workers, and other useful vocations coming down through the same family lines.

At the same time, some folks who

(Continued Inside)

Take Note!

Our Summer Worship at the Pavilion concludes on Sept. 6 with Communion at 10.

Homecoming Schedule on Sept. 13 has:

Worship at 11

Dinner on the Grounds at 12:30

Hymn Sing and Remembrance at 1:30

Our regular Fall Schedule resumes on Sept. 20 with Sunday School at 9:45 and Morning Worship at 11.

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From . . . To . . . (Cont.)

have had difficult experiences in life may have used those experiences as building blocks for a better life in the future. Such was the case with Bob Rhoden whose childhood involved abandonment, foster care, and eventual adoption. However, the Lord used all those things in his life to develop a depth of ministry shown throughout his fruitful career.

At the same time, we are all heading to our future. Although we cannot control all aspects of where we are and where we are going in our lives, we do have some control over the choices we make that will determine our future.

One obvious choice that we do have is whether we choose to accept the gospel message of Jesus' love for us. Wherever he preached, Jesus called for a response. In fact, the short-hand version of his basic sermon has this theme of response. In Mark 1:14-15, we read, "Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.'"

In essence this passage of Jesus' proclamation of the good news tells us that the time for making a decision has come; that is, the time is fulfilled and God's kingdom is ready. Then, Jesus calls people to determine their future by repenting of their sin and believing the good

news of God's kingdom. If we do answer Jesus' call to repent and believe, the whole character of our To (our future) become different, brighter.

Churches also have a From and a To. Windy Cove has a long history of faithful members and pastors. Our 250th Anniversary Quilt helps us to remember such folks. Even as you read this article, you may be thinking of people like Richard Durham, Betty Jo Armstrong, Carl Plecker, Marian McCray, Jim Tennant, Orpha Cauley, Troy Mullis, Sam Hart, Don Swope, and many, many more who have shaped the current life of the church.

At the same time, Windy Cove celebrates this year's Homecoming in the midst of a Discernment Process with Shenandoah Presbytery during which we are seeking to make important and faithful decisions about our future. We are searching in our Present to remember our From (our Past) while heading toward our To (our Future). May the Lord bless us in our Homecoming on September 13 with his presence bringing joy and wisdom to our journey of faith.

At the Pavilion

On Sunday, August 30, Windy Covians worshiped at their Picnic Pavilion on Mountain Valley Road. The Pavilion was dedicated on Homecoming Sunday in 2005 to the memory of Carl and Della Plecker. The Plecker family furnished the seed money for the beginning of the

Pavilion, and it helps to remember the gracious care that Carl and Della gave to their family as evidenced by their family picnics.

On the 30th worshipers at the Pavilion considered Mary, the mother of Jesus, as one of the Great Leaders of the Bible. Mr. Sherrard highlighted Mary's leadership during her many transitions in life. As a teenager she found out that she was to be the mother of the Messiah. Generally, teens experience much change during those years even without the added responsibility given to Mary.

Then, during her life as a mother, she had to adjust to being that unique mother of the Messiah. Mark 3 tells us that at one point in Jesus' ministry, his family was ready to take him home thinking that he had lost his senses. What a transition for Mary!

During Jesus' crucifixion, Mary was at the foot of the cross. As one of Windy Cove's special musical numbers says, Mary's heart was truly "broken in two" by the agony of seeing her son crucified.

However, after Jesus' resurrection, Mary made the successful transition from being Jesus' mother to being a Jesus' disciple. Luke makes it clear in the Book of Acts that Mary was numbered with the other disciples on the Day of Pentecost. Along with the others, she received the Holy Spirit in power, and no doubt she continued to minister effectively through the rest of her life.

During all of these transitions in her life, Mary lived out the words that she had spoken to the angel at the announcement of Jesus' coming, "Let it be to me according to your Word." Her trust in the Word of God gave substance to the angel's pronouncement that with God nothing is impossible.

On September 6 at the Pavilion we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. During our worship we will consider Jesus as the Servant Leader.

Methodists Meet at Windy Cove

Those of you who drove by the church on Wednesday, September 2, in the late morning may have wondered, "What's going on at the church today?" Well, we were hosting a group of Methodist women!

Fran Hobbs' sister, Nellie Burns, was the hostess for her women's group from Granbery United Methodist. Mrs. Burns thought the ladies would enjoy the trip to the country and seeing Fran's Peaceful River Campground. So, with Fran's help the ladies gathered at Windy Cove.

After their late morning meeting, the women had lunch together at the church. Then, they went on to Peaceful River to enjoy God's beautiful creation there. Mr. Sherrard was available to greet the guests, share some history of the church, and eat lunch with the group.

By the way, our new front walk without steps helped several of the ladies as they entered the church.